

REMARKS

A final Office Action issued in the above-referenced case on October 30, 2007. Applicant submits herewith a Request for Continued Examination (RCE), prior to the announced Patent Office rule change date of November 1, 2007.

The final Office Action has not yet been made available online, and has not yet reached the undersigned. Applicant reserves the right to file a Supplemental Amendment and Response, to further address rejections of the final Office Action.

No claim amendments are made herein. Upon entry of this paper, claims 1-42 and 45-48 will still be pending.

The fact that the 3D GUI element is operable to selectively adjust only texture within the user-defined region clearly distinguishes the invention from the prior art.

Each of the independent claims indicates that the three-dimensional graphical user interface element is operable to adjust the mapped texture within the arbitrarily shaped user-defined region of the surface without affecting a contiguous portion of said surface outside said user-defined region. The independent claims also indicate that the user-defined region is less than the entire surface of the three-dimensional virtual object. None of the cited art, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests a 3D GUI with these attributes.

For example, Figures 21A-C, 23A-C, and 26A-C, reproduced below, demonstrate the 3D GUI of the instant application, operable to adjust an arbitrarily-shaped user-defined region of the surface of a 3D virtual object without affecting the rest of the surface outside the region. Figures 21A-C demonstrate translating the texture within the arbitrarily-shaped user-defined region using the 3D GUI; Figures 23A-C demonstrate scaling the texture within the arbitrarily-shaped user-defined region using the 3D GUI, and Figures 26A-C demonstrate rotating the texture within the arbitrarily-shaped user-defined region using the 3D GUI.

Translating

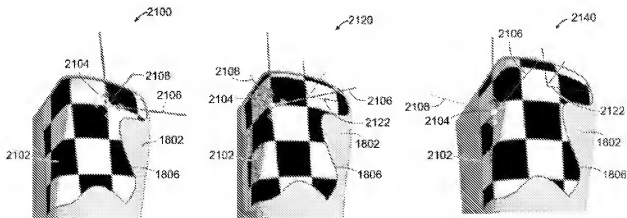
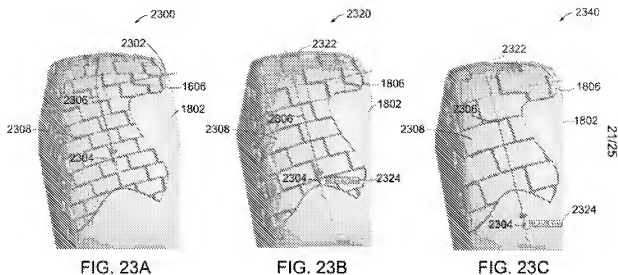


FIG. 21A

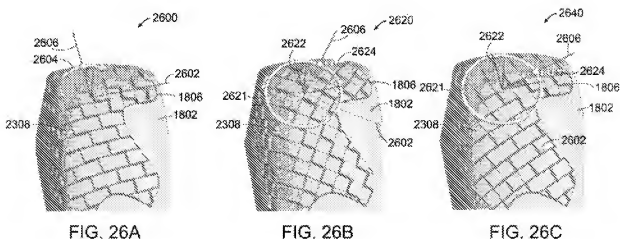
FIG. 21B

FIG. 21C

Scaling



Rotating



Claims 1, 10, 23, and 30 are patentable in light of the prior art, at least for the reasons presented here, and Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of any remaining rejections of these claims. Dependent claims 2-9, 11-22, 24-29, 31-42, and 45-48 depend directly or indirectly from one of these independent claims and are therefore also patentable in light of all the cited art, at least on this basis. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of all remaining rejections.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections, and allowance of claims 1-42 and 45-48 in due course. The Examiner is hereby cordially invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative by telephone at the number listed below to discuss any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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